

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable garment comprising:

at least one front side panel comprising a fastening component, the front side panel defining a distal edge;

at least one back side panel comprising a mating fastening component, the back side panel defining a distal edge;

at least one frangible bond connecting the front side panel and the back side panel, the fastening component and the mating fastening component being in the unfastened condition;

wherein the at least one frangible bond is located ~~outward of~~ between the fastening component and the distal edge of the front side panel and between the mating fastening component and the distal edge of the back side panel.

2. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1, further comprising at least one first opening and at least one second opening.

3. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 2 wherein the frangible bond extends substantially from the first opening to the second opening.

4. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 2 wherein the frangible bond extends a partial distance from the first opening to the second opening.

5. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein the frangible bond has a width in a range from about 1 mm to about 25 mm.

6. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein the frangible bond has a width in a range from about 2 mm to about 10 mm.

7. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein the frangible bond has a width in a range from about 3 mm to about 6 mm.

8. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein a strength of the frangible bond is in a range from about 10 grams to about 2700 grams.

9. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein a strength of the frangible bond is less than about 2700 g.

10. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein a strength of the frangible bond is in a range from about 200 grams to about 2000 grams.

11. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein a strength of the frangible bond is less than about 2000 g.

12. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein a strength of the frangible bond is in a range from about 500 grams to about 1000 grams.

13. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 1 wherein a strength of the frangible bond is less than about 1000 g.

14-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) An absorbent garment, comprising:

a chassis including a first front side panel and a second front side panel, a first back side panel and a second back side panel, and defining a waist opening and first and second leg openings;

each front side panel having an inner surface and an outer surface and defining a distal edge;

each back side panel having an inner surface and an outer surface and defining a distal edge;

a first frangible bond connecting the first front side panel and the first back side panel;

a second frangible bond connecting the second front side panel and the second back side panel;

wherein each of the front side panels comprises a fastening component bonded to one of the inner and the outer surfaces adjacent the distal edge of the front side panel, and each of the back side panels comprises a mating fastening component bonded to one of the inner and the outer surfaces adjacent the distal edge of the back side panel, the fastening component and the mating fastening component being in the unfastened condition;

wherein each of the front side panels defines a distance between the fastening component and the distal edge, and each of the back side panels defines a distance between the mating fastening component and the distal edge; and

~~wherein each frangible bond is located outward of each fastening component and each mating fastening component~~ the first frangible bond is located between the fastening component and the distal edge of the first front side panel and between the mating fastening component and the distal edge of the first back side panel;
and

wherein the second frangible bond is located between the fastening component and the distal edge of the second front side panel and between the mating fastening component and the distal edge of the second back side panel.

20. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the first frangible bond extends substantially from the waist opening to the first leg opening, and the second frangible bond extends substantially from the waist opening to the second leg opening.

21. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the first frangible bond extends a partial distance from the waist opening to the first leg opening, and the second frangible bond extends a partial distance from the waist opening to the second leg opening.

22. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the distance between each of the fastening components and the distal edge of one of the front side panels is in a range from about 1 mm to about 25 mm.

23. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the distance between each of the mating fastening components and the distal edge of one of the back side panels is in a range from about 1 mm to about 25 mm.

24. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the distance between each of the fastening components and the distal edge of one of the front side panels is in a range from about 2 mm to about 10 mm.

25. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the distance between each of the mating fastening components and the distal edge of one of the back side panels is in a range from about 2 mm to about 10 mm.

26. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the distance between each of the fastening components and the distal edge of one of the front side panels is in a range from about 3 mm to about 6 mm.

27. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein the distance between each of the mating fastening components and the distal edge of one of the back side panels is in a range from about 3 mm to about 6 mm.

28. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein each of the first and second frangible bonds have a width in a range from about 1 mm to about 25 mm.

29. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is less than about 2700 grams.

30. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is less than about 2000 grams.

31. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 19 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is in a range from about 500 grams to about 1000 grams.

32-35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) An absorbent garment, comprising:

a chassis including a first front side panel and a second front side panel, a first back side panel and a second back side panel, defining a waist opening and first and second leg openings, and each front side panel and each back side panel having an inner surface and an outer surface;

each front side panel defining a distal edge;

each back side panel defining a distal edge;

a first frangible bond connecting the first front side panel and the first back side panel; and

a second frangible bond connecting the second front side panel and the second back side panel;

each front side panel and each back side panel having a nonwoven substrate and at least one of the front side panels and the back side panels defining an attachment surface; and

at least one fastening component bonded to one of the front side panels and the back side panels on one of the inner surface and the outer surface, the at least one fastening component comprising a mechanical fastening element adapted to refastenably engage the attachment surface, the mechanical fastening element and the attachment surface being in the unfastened condition;

wherein each ~~frangible bond is located outward of each mechanical fastening element~~ frangible bond is located between the mechanical fastening element and the distal edge of the side panel comprising the mechanical fastening element.

37. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein the at least one fastening component is bonded to the inner surface of the chassis.

38. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein the at least one fastening component is bonded to the outer surface of the chassis.

39. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein the attachment surface comprises complementary loop fasteners.

40. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein the attachment surface comprises complementary hook fasteners.

41-43. (Canceled)

44. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein each of the first and second frangible bonds have a width in a range from about 1 mm to about 25 mm.

45. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein each of the first and second frangible bonds have a width in a range from about 2 mm to about 10 mm.

46. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is less than about 2700 grams.

47. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is less than about 2000 grams.

48. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 36 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is in a range from about 500 grams to about 1000 grams.

49. (Previously presented) An absorbent garment, comprising:

a chassis including a first front side panel and a second front side panel, a first back side panel and a second back side panel, defining a waist opening and first and second leg openings, and each front side panel and each back side panel having an inner surface and an outer surface;

each front side panel defining a distal edge;

each back side panel defining a distal edge;

a first frangible bond connecting the first front side panel and the first back side panel; and

a second frangible bond connecting the second front side panel and the second back side panel;

each front side panel and each back side panel having a nonwoven substrate and at least one of the front side panels and the back side panels defining an attachment surface; and

at least one fastening component bonded to one of the front side panels and the back side panels on one of the inner surface and the outer surface, the at least one fastening component comprising a mechanical fastening element adapted to refastenably engage the attachment surface, the mechanical fastening element and the attachment surface being in the unfastened condition wherein one of each front side panel and each back side panel further comprises a perforation.

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50. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 49 wherein each perforation is located inward of each frangible bond.

51. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 49 wherein each perforation is located outward of the each frangible bond.

52. (Currently Amended) An absorbent garment, comprising:

a chassis including a first front side panel and a second front side panel, a first back side panel and a second back side panel, defining a waist opening and first and second leg openings, and each front side panel and each back side panel having an inner surface and an outer surface;

each front side panel defining a distal edge;

each back side panel defining a distal edge;

a first frangible bond connecting the first front side panel and the first back side panel; and

a second frangible bond connecting the second front side panel and the second back side panel;

a portion of the chassis having a nonwoven substrate defining an attachment surface; and

at least one fastening component bonded to one of the front side panels and the back side panels on one of the inner surface and the outer surface, the at least one fastening component comprising a mechanical fastening element adapted to refastenably engage the attachment surface, the mechanical fastening element and the attachment surface being in the unfastened condition;

wherein each frangible bond is located ~~outward of each mechanical fastening element~~ between the mechanical fastening element and the distal edge of the side panel comprising the mechanical fastening element.

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53-55. (Canceled)

56. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 52 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is less than about 2700 grams.

57. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 52 wherein a strength of each of the frangible bonds is less than about 2000 grams.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously Presented) An absorbent garment, comprising:

a chassis including a first front side panel and a second front side panel, a first back side panel and a second back side panel, and each front side panel and each back side panel having an inner surface and an outer surface;

one of the front side panels and the back side panels comprising a nonwoven substrate and defining an attachment surface; and

at least one fastening component bonded to the inner surface of one of the front side panels and the back side panels, the at least one fastening component comprising a mechanical fastening element adapted to refastenably engage the attachment surface;

wherein the at least one fastening component engages the attachment surface, and the inner surface of the first front side panel faces the inner surface of the first back side panel;

wherein the attachment surface is located on the inner surface and the outer surface of one of the front side panels and the back side panels.

60. (Previously presented) A disposable refastenable garment comprising:
at least one front panel comprising a fastening component;
at least one back panel comprising a mating fastening component;
at least one frangible bond connecting the front panel and the back panel,
the fastening component and the mating fastening component being in the unfastened
condition;
wherein the at least one frangible bond is aligned with the fastening
component and the mating fastening component.